

USAID/Regional Center for Southern Africa
ANNUAL REPORT FY 2003

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Please Note:

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A. Program Level Narrative

Program Performance Summary:

Background: The Initiative for Southern Africa is a regional program that covers the 12 of the 14 countries that are members of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). The country mix ranges from very poor (Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe) to middle income (Botswana, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland). Many of the countries in Southern Africa continue to be predominantly agricultural - although agriculture accounts for 70-80% of employment in SADC, it contributes less than 10% of regional GDP. According to SADC, the region requires an economic growth rate of 6.2% to achieve an effective and sustainable reduction in poverty. The average growth rate for 2001, however, was only 2.5% (compared to 2.6% in 2000).

Southern Africa has relatively well-developed infrastructure and a diverse natural resource base. Because of the smallness of most of the region's economies, the region's development necessarily depends upon regional economic integration and accessing global markets. In order to do this, Southern Africa needs to greatly increase and improve its competitiveness. Increased rates of growth in South Africa, the region's economic center, would enhance chances of regional growth.

The fourteen member states of SADC are working towards regional integration. Major accomplishments have been achieved with the signing and implementation of key regional agreements (i.e. protocols), particularly the trade, transport, telecommunications, energy, shared watercourse, and anti-corruption protocols. However, the pace of implementation of protocols, particularly the SADC Trade Protocol, the cornerstone of the region's economic integration initiative, has been slow.

The decline of infant mortality in the SADC region is one of the major achievements in the last few decades. The under-five mortality rate for Southern Africa declined from 180 deaths per 1000 in 1960 to 111 deaths per 1000 in 2000. However, Southern Africa includes the majority of the world's countries hardest-hit by HIV/AIDS. The impact is enormous in loss of economic productivity, loss of income, social liabilities, loss of family members, pressure on health services, and the emergence of a growing number of orphans. With an estimated adult HIV prevalence rate of 20% or greater in several countries in the region, governments are struggling to determine how to confront the problem without neglecting other, equally compelling health issues, such as malaria, tuberculosis, cholera, and dysentery.

Southern Africa remains relatively peaceful compared to other sub-regions of Africa. Significant positive developments in the recent past include the cessation of hostilities in Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Also noteworthy was the successful conduct of elections in Lesotho in May 2002, after the elections in 1998 that ended in bloody riots. Peace appears to be enduring in Mozambique after a protracted and bloody civil war. South Africa, the sub-region's biggest economy, continues to be committed to democratic transition despite remaining a deeply divided society facing entrenched demographic, social and economic challenges.

The sub-region's vulnerability to conflict remains high. Although not equally present, the potential root causes and intervening variables exist in all countries. These include demographic, economic, environmental and political variables. An environmental factor such as water scarcity is a potential trigger for conflict in drought prone Southern Africa. Other environmental and resource issues such as access to land and water are potential fault lines along which conflict could arise.

With a few exceptions (such as Botswana and Mauritius) most SADC economies have not been growing at a rate sufficient to absorb the impact of the demographic and environment pressures. These factors together with socio-political factors such as the legitimacy of government can trigger intra-state conflict which will have spillover and destabilizing effects in the region. Zimbabwe's political and economic crisis is already regarded as a low intensity intra-state conflict negatively impacting on regional integration and perceptions about the region's stability in general. Peace processes in Angola and the DRC are still to take root and the possibility of reverting to violent conflict still exists. Potential for election related dispute is high during the upcoming 2004 elections.

U.S. Interests and Goals: The U.S. has three main regional interests in Southern Africa. First, the U.S. would like to increase trade and strengthen economic ties with the SADC region. At the same time, the U.S. is very concerned about the region's unfolding food security and HIV/AIDS crises. Finally, these economic and social interests fall under the broader U.S. objective of strengthening democracy and mitigating the tensions and impacts of conflict in the region.

To date, RCSA's program has focused heavily on activities in regional economic integration and trade competitiveness. Starting with programs aimed at lowering internal barriers to trade and improving trade-related infrastructure, RCSA has also acted to help the region respond to the challenges and opportunities offered in the external market, in particular the opportunities for increased trade with the U.S. through the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). This work will be accelerated through the work of the new Trade Hub for the SADC region, which was recently created under the Africa Bureau Trade Initiative.

RCSA has also responded to the immediate needs of the food security crisis through rolling assessments of household vulnerability in the six countries with populations at risk. In addition, the introduction of drought tolerant varieties of subsistence food crops through regional agricultural research and marketing activities has reportedly cut the hunger period in targeted districts. Rural households in often marginal agricultural areas are finding new ways of earning incomes through the enterprise components of activities in the environmental portfolio of natural resource management areas.

USAID's regional program responding to the third area, the HIV/AIDS pandemic, is being managed by USAID/South Africa, not RCSA. There is however, an ongoing side-activity in the transit corridors that demonstrates the value of multi-sector intervention in which an USAID-funded truckers association has become a partner and proponent of the use of information and testing centers created by German donor assistance at key points along the corridors.

RCSA's interventions in democracy grew out of the priorities expressed by its strongest regional partners working in democracy and governance - elections, independent media and anti-corruption. The regional approach encourages the use of regional pressure to accept and apply democratic standards; it also provides peer support for organizations working at a national level.

Challenges: In 2002 Southern Africa was faced with two regional challenges that are tightly interlinked: the food security crisis and the Zimbabwe political crisis. After two successive years of drought, more than 14 million people in six countries are at risk of starvation - a situation that was predicted in early 2002 and that continues to worsen into the start of 2003. The crisis was complicated by political factors, regional concerns about GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms), and erroneous policy decisions in several countries. The land redistribution in Zimbabwe eviscerated its commercial agricultural sector and deprived the region of the food production of what has historically been a regional "breadbasket".

The political crisis in Zimbabwe has also affected donor activity in Zimbabwe and the region. Movement to isolate Zimbabwe has made difficult the implementation of ongoing programs for both donors and their partners in SADC.

In the case of RCSA, Zimbabwe's failure to make debt payment to the U.S. government in early FY 2002 invoked the Brooke Amendment. Further U.S. Government foreign policy guidance to isolate Zimbabwe combined to effectively exclude Zimbabwe from regional activities. This affected implementation of the regional program in FY 2002. The cross-border natural resource management and the railway transportation programs were the most affected due to their on-the-ground activities in Zimbabwe.

Key Achievements: Despite these difficulties, FY 2002 was a productive year for the regional program in Southern Africa. The program built on the momentum gained from previous years to generate some significant results in trade and democratic programs. The agriculture program made a difference through its response to the food security crisis in the region, and the environmental program saw the operational

framework of its first transboundary natural resource management area, the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park, become reality.

The current strategy will end in FY 2003, but many of the ongoing activities will be completed in the following year during which RCSA will transition to the 2004-2010 strategy.

1. Democracy and Governance: Activities under this SO are grouped in three focus areas: electoral norms and standards, independent media, and anti-corruption. Implementing partners are all Southern African non-governmental organizations, and the work that USAID is supporting is truly theirs. For example, the SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF) is applying the electoral norms and standards to national elections that they themselves developed. Another partner, the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) has decided to change the focus of ongoing programs in order to take the lead in media opposition and advocacy against governmental actions to tighten controls on media and on freedom of expression.

In FY 2002, the SADC PF applied its norms and standards to national elections in Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Lesotho, with very credible results and conclusions. MISA, in its role as leader of eleven national chapters, developed an advocacy tool kit with materials for teaching advocacy and providing models for legislation and codes of conduct. MISA also helped its chapter in Zambia develop and introduce legislation to liberalize media controls and regulation. In the area of anti-corruption, the Southern Africa Human Rights Trust (SAHRIT) followed up the signing of the SADC Anti-Corruption Protocol (i.e. regional agreement) with activities intended to accelerate ratification and implementation of the protocol.

2. Regional Market Integration: In FY 2002 RCSA and the Africa Bureau created the Southern Africa Global Competitiveness Hub as part of the Bureau's Trade Initiative to provide specialized technical support to the countries of the SADC region. Much of the SO portfolio discussed below is now consolidated under the Hub.

RCSA's SO to promote economic growth through trade has two main components, trade and infrastructure. Under the trade component, the program seeks to lower tariff and non-tariff barriers to regional trade, harmonize macroeconomic and tax policy among SADC member states, and increase trade capacity of ministries, public / private organizations and private enterprises. Although SO activities were originally oriented toward the regional market, the SO now also addresses external market competitiveness issues as well as compliance and eligibility issues related to WTO and AGOA.

This SO also finances activities in trade-related infrastructure in telecommunications, transport and electricity. With the aim of increasing competition, USAID has worked with partners to create the frameworks and operational structures for the entrance of private sector providers in the cellular line market, and the creation of an alternative short-term market for the buying and selling of excess electricity. In transport, RCSA is now concentrating on the development of seamless operations of two transit corridors, the Trans Kalahari Corridor and the Dar es Salaam Corridor. This includes the operational streamlining of Customs processing at border posts.

In FY 2002, the SO made steady progress on the trade side. Analytical and dissemination work done in previous years led to more liberalized policies for rules of origin under the SADC Free Trade Agreement for several sectors, including plastic products, and machinery and mechanical appliances. Recognizing that similar economic policies would make the region as a whole more attractive to investors, the SADC Ministers of Finance reached agreement on working together to reach convergence on macroeconomic and tax policies. Fueled by strong exports from South Africa and Lesotho, regional trade to the U.S. under AGOA increased far more rapidly than projected.

On the infrastructure side, a Customs pilot project was carried out on the Trans Kalahari Corridor which tested, among other things, the use of the new Customs Administrative Form - i.e. one form instead of the previous eight. The short-term electricity market continued to grow in both volume and membership.

3. **Natural Resource Management:** This SO focuses on transboundary management of shared natural resources. RCSA is currently working in three areas: 1) the Great Limpopo between South Africa, Mozambique and Zimbabwe; 2) Four Corners between Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and 3) ZIMOZA between Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Zambia. The approach can be characterized as working at two levels: at the government-to-government agreement and management level, and at the community level. It builds upon the experience and stock of best practices gained in the community based natural resource management (CBNRM) projects of prior years.

In FY 2002, progress was slowed by the Zimbabwe issues. Even so, the operational framework of Joint Management Plan and Joint Management Board was approved for one of the three areas - the Great Limpopo. Substantial progress was made on the development of sectoral or geographic plans in all three areas, and preparations began for a concerted effort to develop community enterprises and joint ventures in Great Limpopo and Four Corners. More than 80 academic and technical staff from five universities were trained in GIS applications, and the University of Botswana has developed a curriculum in GIS reaching 600 undergraduate and 20 graduate students a year.

4. **Agricultural Technologies:** RCSA's agricultural SO aims to improve the lot of the small farmer through market development for basic staple crops. There is also a policy component that focuses on food safety standards as well as policies affecting food security. To carry out the first activity, a long-standing research program in improved varieties of staple food crops was redirected from research to dissemination of improved varieties and technologies to farmers, and the expansion of commercial markets for surplus production. The crops selected are sorghum, pearl millet, cassava and sweet potato.

Results in FY 2002 were adversely affected by the drought, but regardless, the general steady growth in adoption of improved varieties continued. Due to the ongoing food security crisis, home consumption of sorghum increased, which reduced the amount going to market; the availability of planting material for cassava was also adversely affected, due in part to people raiding fields for food. In a separate activity, the emergency food security rolling assessments identified specific locations of most vulnerable households and thus facilitated targeted delivery of food supplies by donors and suppliers.

A public-private alliance to commercialize a vaccine for Heartwater disease in livestock is expected to begin carrying out field trials in the 2nd quarter of FY 2003. Heartwater is a tick-borne disease affecting cattle, sheep, goats and wildlife in the region. RCSA has high hopes for the success of this venture, especially since it could hugely benefit smallholder households and game producers in the region.

Gender: In general, RCSA is mainstreaming gender into its program. Even so, RCSA has an activity that specifically addresses gender, the Engendering Parliaments activity that has rejuvenated the Women's Parliamentary Caucus in several countries. The agriculture portfolio is targeting women producers of staple food crops to generate and commercialize surpluses, as well as introducing labor-saving technologies for processing millet and cassava.

Donor Relations: The European Union (EU) countries and USAID are the largest donors to SADC countries in trade, investment, natural resource management, and agricultural sectors. The EU and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) also support media freedom, and the IMF is working on anti-corruption initiatives. USAID and the IMF are collaborating on regional macroeconomic policy initiatives. The World Bank and USAID are cooperating on trans-boundary park management activities in the Great Limpopo. The World Bank is also contributing to the growth of the short-term electricity market that USAID was instrumental in starting. Disaster management receives support from the World Bank, the IMF, the UNDP and Germany. Many donors are also active in natural resource policies and management, including the World Bank, the EU, the UNDP, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, France and the Global Environmental Fund. The World Bank, the EU, Germany, and the African Development Bank promote the development of transportation corridors in Southern Africa.

Environmental Compliance: The mission reviewed all strategic objectives and determined that all current activities are in compliance with approved Initial Environmental Examinations (IEEs),

Environmental Assessments, and Categorical Exclusions. All required mitigations and conditions are being followed.

Plans for new or amended Initial Environmental Examinations or Environmental Assessments:
690-012: IEE being finalized. Negative Determination with conditions in 2000. Environmental screening as part of Reg. 216 will be carried out for any new activities involving construction.

Country Closeout & Graduation:

D. Results Framework

690-001 Increased Regional Capacity to Influence Democratic Performance

SO Level Indicator: % of organizations characterized as below strong

SO Level Indicator: % of organizations characterized as strong

SO Level Indicator: Increased effectiveness of organizations seeking to achieve regional DG impacts -- i.e. DG practitioners' assessments of partner organizations

IR 1.1 Increased information sharing within the region

IR 1.2 Increased advocacy and other cooperation bringing regional experience to bear at national level

IR 1.3 Regional norms further defined by Southern Africans

Discussion:

690-002 A More Integrated Regional Market

SO Level Indicator: Price Convergence in SADC region

SO Level Indicator: Value of Intra-SADC trade

IR 2.2.3 Regional policies adopted and regulatory frameworks and operational standards harmonized

IR 2.3 Advocacy for sustained regional integration strengthened

IR 2.1 Reduced barriers to broadened participation in the regional market

IR 2.2 More efficient provision of infrastructure

IR 2.2.1 RCSA sponsored operational infrastructure improvements used

IR 2.2.2 Private participation in service provision increased

Discussion:

690-011 Broadened U.S.-SADC Cooperation

Discussion: Per agreement with AID/W, this Special Objective does not have any indicators.

690-012 Increased Regional Cooperation in the Management of Shared Natural Resources

SO Level Indicator: Conclusion of actions critical to the achievement of trans-boundary cooperation

IR 12.1 Viable Practices for sustainable management of shared natural resources adopted

IR 12.2 Policies, protocols and agreements enacted

IR 12.3 Organizations and institutions capable of effective regional intervention

IR 12.4 Ecological monitoring systems for decision making improved

Discussion:

690-013 Expanded Commercial Markets for Agricultural Technologies and Commodities in the SADC Region

SO Level Indicator: Quantity of grain and root crop sold to the commercial market

SO Level Indicator: Quantity of improved seed sold in selected private sector markets

IR 13.1 Laws and Policies that Increase Trade in Agricultural Technologies and Commodities Enacted

IR 13.2 Adoption of sustainable agricultural technologies and practices increased

- IR 13.3 Private Sector participation in delivery systems for improved agricultural technologies increased
- IR 13.4 New sustainable agricultural technologies and practices developed

Discussion:

Selected Performance Measures - Regional Center for Southern Africa

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Indicator (all data should pertain to FY or CY 02)	OU Response	Significant Result: Description of the significant result for a strategic objective	Data Quality Factors: Information relevant to the collection of this indicator data, e.g. "this data was not collected last year because it is only collected every five years."
Pillar I: Global Development Alliance			
Did your operating unit achieve a significant result working in alliance with the private sector or NGOs?			
a. How many alliances did you implement in 2002? (list partners)	0		
b. How many alliances do you plan to implement in FY 2003?	1		
What amount of funds has been leveraged by the alliances in relationship to USAID's contribution?			
Pillar II: Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade			
USAID Objective 1: Critical, private markets expanded and strengthened			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
690-002 A More Integrated Regional Market	Yes		<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>A short-term electricity market that was created in 2001 now provides an alternative to the long-term bilateral contracts and has allowed its members to reduce their reserve margins from 18% to 10%.</p> </div> <div style="flex: 1; padding-left: 10px;"> <p>Report on FY year basis. Regional impact.</p> </div> </div>
USAID Objective 2: More rapid and enhanced agricultural development and food security encouraged			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
690-013 Expanded Commercial Markets for Agricultural Technologies and Commodities in the SADC Region	No		
USAID Objective 3: Access to economic opportunity for the rural and urban poor expanded and made more equitable			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
690-013 Expanded Commercial Markets for Agricultural Technologies and Commodities in the SADC Region	No		
USAID Objective 4: Access to quality basic education for under-served populations, especially for girls and women, expanded			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			
a. Number of children enrolled in primary schools affected by USAID basic education programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total
b. Number of children enrolled in primary schools affected by USAID basic education programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total
USAID Objective 5: World's environment protected by emphasizing policies and practices ensuring environmentally sound and efficient energy use, sustainable urbanization,			
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?			

690-012 Increased Regional Cooperation in the Management of Shared Natural Resources	Yes			One of the world's largest transboundary parks has been created, the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park between Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe. Technical assistance provided under this SO contributed to the development of the joint management plan, the joint policy and management guidelines, and the draft treaty. Report on FY year basis. Regional impact.
a. Hectares under Approved Management Plans (2002 actual)				
b. Hectares under Approved Management Plans (2003 target)				
Pillar III: Global Health				
USAID Objective 1: Reducing the number of unintended pregnancies				
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?				
Percentage of in-union women age 15-49 using, or whose partner is using, a modern method of contraception at the time of the survey. (DHS/RHS)	%			
USAID Objective 2: Reducing infant and child mortality				
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?				
Percentage of children age 12 months or less who have received their third dose of DPT (DHS/RHS)	Male	Female	Total	
Percentage of children age 6-59 months who had a case of diarrhea in the last two weeks and received ORT (DHS/RHS)	Male	Female	Total	
Percentage of children age 6-59 months receiving a vitamin A supplement during the last six months (DHS/RHS)	Male	Female	Total	
Were there any confirmed cases of wild-strain polio transmission in your country?				
USAID Objective 3: Reducing deaths and adverse health outcomes to women as a result of pregnancy and childbirth				
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?				
Percentage of births attended by medically-trained personnel (DHS/RHS)	%			
USAID Objective 4: Reducing the HIV transmission rate and the impact of HIV/AIDS pandemic in developing countries				
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?				
a. Total condom sales (2002 actual)				
b. Total condom sales (2003 target)				
National HIV Seroprevalence Rates reported annually (Source: National Sentinel Surveillance System)	%			

Number of sex partners in past year (Source: national survey/conducted every 3-5 years)per DHS or other survey)				
Median age at first sex among young men and women (age of sexual debut) ages 15-24 (Source: national survey/conducted every 3-5 years) per DHS or other survey)	Male	Female	Total	
Condom use with last non-regular partner (Source: national survey/conducted every 3-5 years)per DHS or other survey)	%			
Number of Clients provided services at STI clinics				
Number of STI clinics with USAID assistance				
Number of orphans and other vulnerable children receiving care/support				
Number of Orphans and Vulnerable Children programs with USAID assistance				
Number of community initiatives or community organizations receiving support to care for orphans and other vulnerable children				
Number of USAID-supported health facilities offering PMTCT services				
Number of women who attended PMTCT sites for a new pregnancy in the past 12 months				
Number of women with known HIV infection among those seen at PMTCT sites within the past year.				
Number of HIV-positive women attending antenatal clinics receiving a complete course of ARV therapy to prevent MTCT (UNGASS National Programme & Behavior Indicator #4)				
Number of individuals reached by community and home-based care programs in the past 12 months				
Number of USAID-assisted community and home-based care programs				
Number of clients seen at Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) centers				
Number of VCT centers with USAID assistance				
Number of HIV-infected persons receiving Anti-Retroviral (ARV) treatment				

Number of USAID-assisted ARV treatment program				
a. Number of individuals treated in STI programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of individuals treated in STI programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	
a. Is your operating unit supporting an MTCT program?				
b. Will your operating unit start an MTCT program in 2003?				
a. Number of individuals reached by community and home based care programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of individuals reached by community and home based care programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	
a. Number of orphans and vulnerable children reached (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of orphans and vulnerable children reached (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	
a. Number of individuals reached by antiretroviral (ARV) treatment programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of individuals reached by antiretroviral (ARV) treatment programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	
USAID Objective 5: Reducing the threat of infectious diseases of major public health importance				
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?				
a. Number of insecticide impregnated bed-nets sold (Malaria) (2002 actual)				
b. Number of insecticide impregnated bed-nets sold (Malaria) (2003 target)				
a. Proportion of districts implementing the DOTS Tuberculosis strategy (2002 actual)	%			
b. Proportion of districts implementing the DOTS Tuberculosis strategy (2003 target)	%			
Pillar III: Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance				
USAID Objective 1: Strengthen the rule of law and respect for human rights				
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?				
USAID Objective 2: Encourage credible and competitive political processes				
Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?				

690-001 Increased Regional Capacity to Influence Democratic Performance	Yes			<p>The SADC Parliamentary Forum applied its electoral norms and standards to three elections in southern Africa, and although pressured to change its assessment of less than free and fair elections in Zimbabwe, stood by its assessment based on the application of these norms and standards.</p> <p>Report on FY year basis. Regional impact.</p>
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USAID Objective 3: Promote the development of politically active civil society
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Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

690-001 Increased Regional Capacity to Influence Democratic Performance	No		
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USAID Objective 4: Encourage more transparent and accountable government institutions

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

690-001 Increased Regional Capacity to Influence Democratic Performance	No		
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USAID Objective 5: Mitigate conflict

Did your program in a pre-conflict situation achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Did your program in a post-conflict situation achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Number of refugees and internally displaced persons assisted by USAID	Male	Female	Total	
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USAID Objective 6: Provide humanitarian relief
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Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Number of beneficiaries				
Crude mortality rates	%			
Child malnutrition rates	%			
Did you provide support to torture survivors this year, even as part of a larger effort?				
Number of beneficiaries (adults age 15 and over)	Male	Female	Total	
Number of beneficiaries (children under age 15)	Male	Female	Total	